

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
29 July 2004 (29.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/062783 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:
1/10, 1/22

G01N 1/00,

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2004/000607

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date: 7 January 2004 (07.01.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

60/438,421

7 January 2003 (07.01.2003) US

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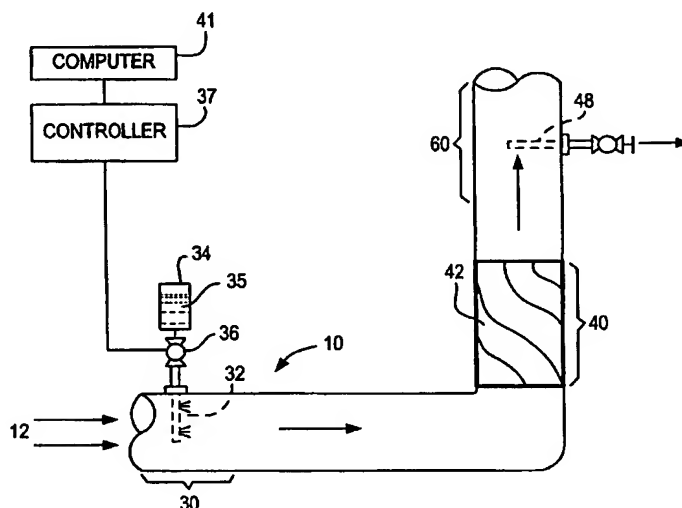
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(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MULTI-PHASE FLUID SAMPLING METHOD AND APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a method for producing a homogenous sample of a pressurized fluid stream flowing in a pipeline, the fluid stream consisting of a majority component of hydrocarbon gas, the remainder consisting of one or more hydrocarbon liquids and water in the form of vapor, aerosols, droplets and/or liquid streams, the method includes the steps of: a. injecting one or more surface active agents into the fluid stream in an injection zone at a rate that is sufficient to form a uniform foam of the gas and the one or more hydrocarbon liquids and water components; b. mixing the one or more surface active agents with the fluid stream in a mixing zone to form a uniform foam composition flowing in the pipeline downstream of the mixing zone; c. withdrawing a portion of the foam composition from the pipeline at a sampling point; d. passing the portion of the foam composition withdrawn through a sampling loop; and e. removing a sample of predetermined volume of the foam composition from the sampling loop for analysis.

WO 2004/062783 A3



Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
30 September 2004

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/00607

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G01N 1/00, 1/10, 1/22

US CL : 436/180

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 436/180

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
436/25, 174, 176

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,190,103 A (GRISTON et al) 02 March 1993 (01.03.1993), column 2, line 65 - column 3, line 3; column 3, lines 55-68; column 4, lines 22-26.	16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24
Y		1-15, 18, 20, 23, 25-32
Y	US 5,597,950 A (MULLEN) 22 January, 1997 (28.01.1997), column 2, line 57 - column 3, line 10; column 3, lines 51-64.	1-32

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 July 2004 (12.07.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

10 AUG 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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